

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

1. (Currently amended): A method for coating open-pored bodies with at least one coating suspension including, in particular, solids and solutes in a liquid medium, in a quantity in wet state which is to correspond to at least a required target quantity, wherein the coating operation includes a variation in the applied wet coating quantity from one body to the other, the method being characterized by the steps of:

(a) coating a body with an actual quantity of the coating suspension, which is always larger than the required target quantity taking the variation of the coating operation into account,

(b) determining the difference between the actual quantity and the required target quantity, and

(c) reducing the difference between actual quantity and target quantity by removing still wet coating suspension, wherein the actual quantity of coating suspension is determined by weighing each body before and after coating and comparing results by re-suction.

2. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein the sequence of steps (a) to (c) are followed by drying and calcination of the applied coating suspension.

3. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 2, wherein step (c) includes reducing the difference between actual quantity and target quantity by ~~re-suction~~ suction from one end of the body using either an intensity, a duration or both intensity and duration ~~intensity and/or duration~~ matched with the magnitude of the differential quantity.

4. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 3, wherein intensity ~~and/or~~ duration or both of ~~re-suction~~ suction are selected from tables of values for the measured actual quantity established in preliminary tests.

5. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 4, wherein duration ~~and/or~~ intensity or both of ~~re-suction~~ suction are controlled in accordance with the values for the actual quantity, duration and/or intensity determined for the bodies coated immediately before, and the associated reduction obtained in the difference between actual and target quantities.

6. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein the ~~actual quantity is determined by weighing the body before and after coating~~ wherein the removal of still wet coating suspension is effected by re-suction or blowing with compressed air.

7. (Previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein steps (b) and (c) are run at least twice until the actual quantity is within a previously specified tolerance range above the target quantity.

8. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 7, wherein suction is applied to mutually opposite ends of the carrier ~~re-suction is performed from the second end of the body~~ during the second run.

9. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 6, wherein the reduction in the difference between actual quantity and target quantity in step (c) is performed ~~only if said difference~~ as said difference exceeds a previously specified threshold value.

10. (Currently amended): The method according to claim 7, wherein the reduction in the difference between actual quantity and target quantity in step (c) is performed ~~only if~~ as said difference exceeds a previously specified threshold value and said threshold value is reduced after each run.

11. (Withdrawn): Apparatus for coating open-pored bodies with at least one coating suspension including, in particular, solids and solutes in a liquid medium, in a quantity in wet state which is to correspond to at least a required target quantity, wherein the coating operation includes a variation in the applied wet coating quantity from one body to the other, the apparatus, in particular, being for a method according to claim 1, comprising:

(a) a coating station (20) for coating the body with an actual quantity of the coating suspension, which is always larger than the required target quantity taking the variation of the coating operation into account,

(b) weighing stations (30, 50) for determining the difference between the actual quantity and the required target quantity, and

(c) a re-suction station (40) for reducing the difference between actual quantity and target quantity by removing still wet coating suspension.